

Headwaters North Fork Maquoketa River Project

Farmers in three subwatersheds covering sections of **Dubuque**, **Delaware and Clayton Counties** within the Maquoketa River Watershed have the opportunity to receive **higher payment rates** on conservation practices and systems that avoid, control and trap nutrient runoff; improve wildlife habitat; and maintain agricultural productivity.

It's part of a new Initiative – the Mississippi River Basin Initiative (MRBI). The goal of MRBI is to reduce nutrient loading in the Mississippi River Basin, which contributes to both local water quality problems and the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

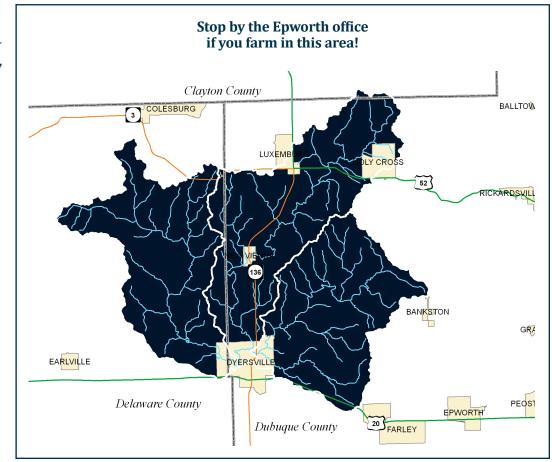
The three local subwatersheds selected for MRBI -Hewitt Creek, Bear Creek, and Coffee Creek-North Fork Maquoketa - historically have intensive livestock agriculture production. Manure applied generously on the landscape can directly impact communities downstream.

Another major resource concern is nitrogen and phosphorus runoff to nearby streams. The losses of these nutrients contributes to the loss of productivity to producers, local water quality problems in the watershed, and the hypoxic zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

MRBI will be offered now through fiscal year 2013. To enroll, applicants must meet the minimum eligibility requirements of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Eligible practices and payment rates are listed on the back page.

For more information about the Headwaters North Fork Maquoketa River Project and MRBI, contact the Epworth Field Office:

210 Biermann Road Epworth, IA 52045 Phone: 563-876-3418, x3







Project Partners:

Dubuque Soil and Water Conservation District
Delaware Soil and Water Conservation District
lowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Hewitt Creek Watershed Improvement Association, Inc.
Coffee Creek Watershed Improvement Association, Inc.
ISU Extension Performance-based Watershed Management Projects
Mississippi National River Museum and Aquarium

Headwaters North Fork Maquoketa River Project MRBI Core Conservation Practice and Payment List

Practice	Payment Rate (Additional technical and financial assistance may be available from the MRBI project partners.)
Cover Crop	\$32 - \$79/acre (up to three years)
Prescribed Grazing	\$61 - \$123/acre
Nutrient Management	\$2.66 - \$30/acre (up to three years)
Residue & Tillage Management, No-till/Strip-till	\$22 - \$45/acre (up to three years)
Contour Farming	\$11.25/acre
Grassed Waterway	\$1.16 - \$2.90/foot
Pasture & Hay Planting	\$42 - \$161/acre
Stripcropping	\$61.70/acre
Terrace	\$.54 - \$3.17/foot
Denitrifying Bioreactor	\$5,999
Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	\$4,860 - 7,695
Drainage Water Management Plan	\$862 - \$1,177
Roof Animal Structure	\$.20/sq. ft.
Monitoring & Evaluations	\$4,687 - \$14,250



